

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
2 June 2005 (02.06.2005)

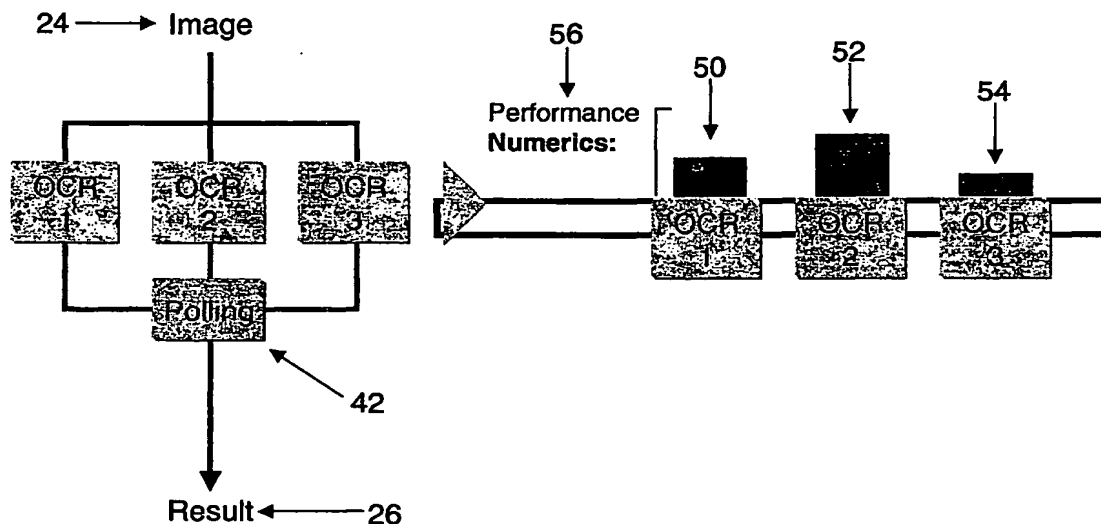
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/050545 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06K 9/68**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/013112
- (22) International Filing Date:
18 November 2004 (18.11.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/520,658 18 November 2003 (18.11.2003) US
- (71) Applicant: SIEMENS AG [DE/DE]; Wittelsbacherplatz 2, 80333 München (DE).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): ROSENBAUM, Walter [US/FR]; 3, rue Eugène Labiche, F-75116 Paris (FR).
- (74) Agent: FISCHER, Michael; Siemens AG, Postfach 22 16 24, 80506 München (DE).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SMART POLLING



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of decoding images. The method includes the following steps: applying in parallel at least a first and second optical character recognition process to an image, the image including many categorizations; determining if the first and second optical character recognition processes produce a substantially similar image result; if the image result is not similar, selecting a highest weighted OCR process categorization based result; and assigning the highest weighted OCR process categorization based result to the image result on a categorization by categorization basis.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.